

Summer Read 6! Bringing books to kids to increase summer reading and stop the summer slide.

We will share the nuts and bolts of our Summer Read 6! program as well as our successes and the reading research behind the project. Our own State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Denise Juneau has launched a *Summer Six Reading Challenge*. Research by Richard Allington and others has shown that students who read as few as six books over the summer can maintain their reading skills into the next fall. Other research shows that students, who do not have access to books they want to read, may lose as much as 3 months of learning over the summer. Teachers, principals, and community members in our highest poverty schools worked this year to create a book give-away program to bring books to schoolchildren (and their younger siblings and their parents) so that they can choose a book they want to read. We visit their school or neighborhood park six times over the summer to talk with them about books and help them choose their next read.